

Where Do These Aegis Go?



My name is Youngsil Kang and I live in Gangjeong village on Jeju Island, South Korea. Our village is 400 years old and is a fishing and farming community. The village is now being torn apart to build a Navy base as a place to port U.S. Navy Aegis destroyers.

Catholic priests and nuns are being arrested trying to block the cement trucks from covering our sacred rocky coast with concrete to make the piers to dock the U.S. warships. Just offshore our UNESCO recognized endangered soft coral reefs would be destroyed when the dredging happens to make deeper the port for these ships.

Our elected mayor spent 94 days in jail for standing on a construction crane. Hundreds of citizens in our small village (population 1,200) have been threatened with fines and jail time because they stand up and say No Navy Base!

We are not against the workers at Bath Iron Works. We understand you need jobs. But you would probably fight to save your way of life too if your village was being destroyed.

What should we do in Gangjeong village? How can we have our life to fish and farm? How can our future generations survive when a Navy base destroys our home?

We want you to know about this situation. It is very complex for all of us but we ask you to think about where these ships you build are sent.

See www.SaveJejuIsland.org